New Hampshire Department of Transportation

“DOT 101”

NHDOT Overview and Summary of Organization

House Transportation Committee Briefing

January 2023

New Hampshire DOT Department of Transportation

Mission

Transportation *excellence* enhancing the quality of life in New Hampshire

Purpose

Transportation excellence in New Hampshire is fundamental to the state's economic development and land use, enhancing the environment, and preserving the unique character and quality of life. The Department will provide safe and secure mobility and travel options for all of the state's residents, visitors, and goods movement, through a transportation system and services that are well maintained, efficient, reliable, and provide seamless interstate and intrastate connectivity.

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New Hampshire Department of Transportation

Assistant Commissioner and Chief Engineer

Commissioner

Deputy Commissioner

Directors

Project Development	Operations	Finance	Policy & Administration	Aeronautics, Rail & Transit

Bureau Administrators and District Engineers

Project Development		Operations	Finance	Policy & Administration	Aeronautics, Rail & Transit
Highway Design Bridge Design Environment Construction	Materials & Research Project Management Right-of-Way Planning & Community Assistance	Highway Maintenance (District Offices) Bridge Maintenance Turnpikes Mechanical Services Traffic Transportation Systems Management and Operations	Finance & Contracts Audit	Human Resources Internal Audit Federal Labor Compliance Hearings & Legislation Public Information	Aeronautics Railroads & Public Transportation

Key Facts About NHDOT

- 1,650 permanent positions
- 2,159 State Bridges
  - State Red List – 114
- 1,698 Municipal Bridges
  - Municipal Red List – 222
- All bridges inspected every two inspected more frequently

(Bridge numbers based on 2021 Bridge Report)

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Key Facts About NHDOT

- Approx. 4,606 centerline miles of roadway managed (additional 300 town maintained)
- Annual paving target approx. 550 centerline miles per year
- Maintain more than 100,000 highway signs
  68 million feet striping
  440 traffic signals
  550 beacons
- 194 miles active state-owned rail lines
- 25 Publicly accessible airports
- 11 Local Public Transit Systems

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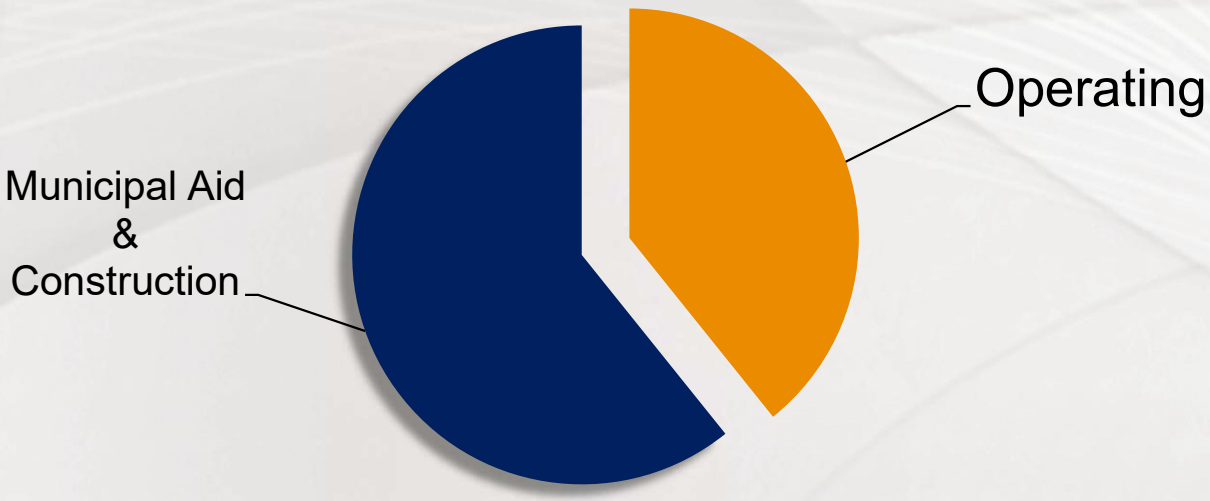
Budget Overview

- FY 2022 Actual Expenditures = $587 million
  - Municipal Aid and Construction Costs = $305 million
  - Operating Costs = $282 million



- Comprised of various funding sources
  - Highway (28%), Federal (38.9%), Turnpike (19.6%), Other (13.3%), General (.2%)

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Aeronautics, Rail and Transit Systems

Aeronautics

25 Open-to-the-Public Airports
12 Federally Funded Airports
- FFY22: Granted $46m
- 3 Commercial airports
- 10 Block Grant Airports

12 Airports do not receive Federal Aid.

CY21: $471K in all Revenue from Aviation Registration Fees.

Rail

6 active operator agreements
- 4 freight service
- 2 tourist service

194 miles active state-owned rail lines

333 miles abandoned/inactive state-owned rail lines

Public Transit

11 Local Public Transit Systems

Intercity/Commuter Service

Boston Express

Community Transportation (Human Service/Volunteer Drivers)

Administration

Executive Office

- Consists of Commissioners and Directors providing overall executive management to the Department
- Funding for agency-wide costs are included in this budgetary activity, such as GO Bond debt service, transfer to other agencies, retiree health, workers comp, unemployment, SWCAP, etc.
- Public Information
- Management Strategy

Finance

- Budget formulation, financial operations, contract management, federal program management and financial analysis, reporting and auditing

Policy and Administration

- Human Resources, Internal Audit, Health & Safety, Federal Labor Compliance
- Policy Formulation, Workforce Analytics

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Project Development

Planning, Engineering and support, Right of Way, and Construction Management

Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan every two years;

Federal Highway Administration program of $225 million per year (mostly construction projects).

FY 2022:
Added 57 new construction contracts and provided construction oversight on 84 active construction projects with a combined total value of $750 million.

Advertised contract value of $233 million

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Maintenance and Operations

Dedicated Statewide workforce

Highway Maintenance :

6 Maintenance districts

87 patrol sections

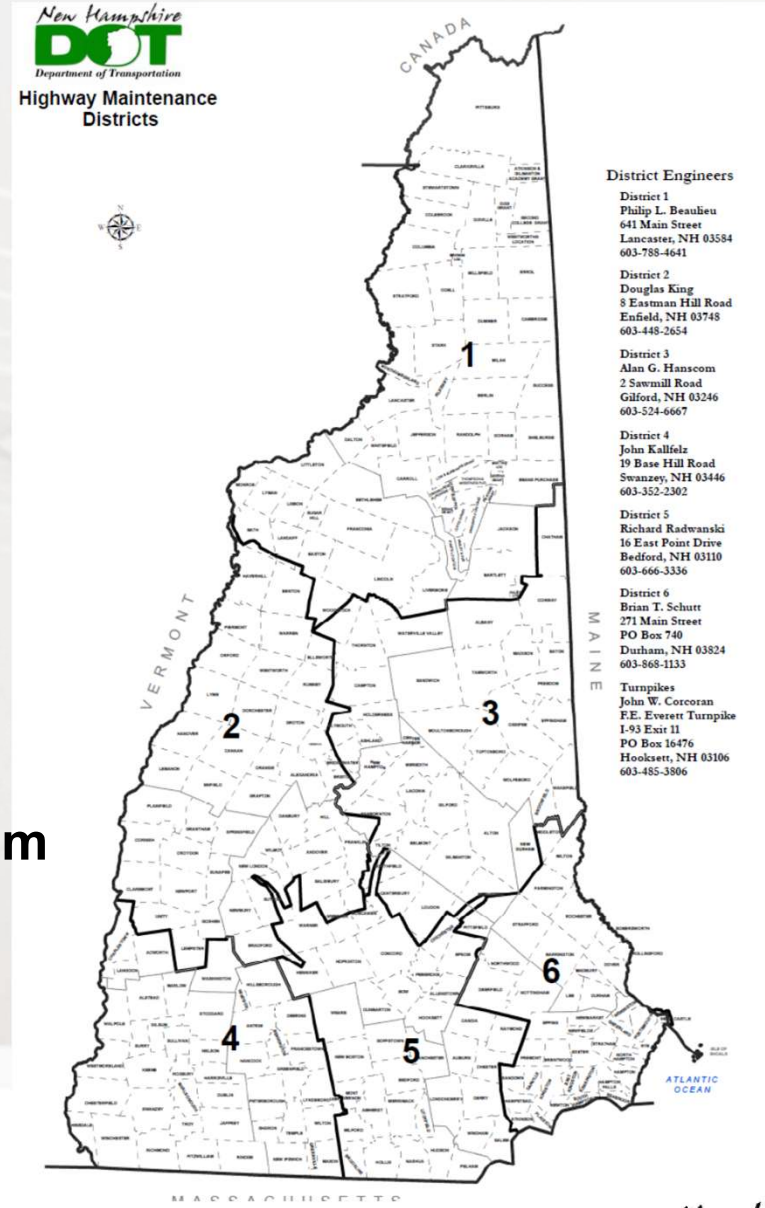
Maintain Roads

Snow Plow Operations

Respond to Emergency Events (Hurricanes, Storms & Flooding)

Manages District Paving Programs

Turnpikes Bureau maintains Turnpike System



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Maintenance and Operations

Dedicated Statewide workforce

Maintenance and Operation Bureaus

Traffic:

- Roadway Line striping
- Signs and Signals
- Speed limits

Bridge Maintenance:

- Maintains State Bridges
- 12 bridge construction crews

Mechanical Services:

- Maintains State Vehicle fleet
- 7 garages

Fuel Distribution:

- Maintains Vehicle Fleet/Fuel Distribution
- 92 fuel sites (includes 2 CNG sites)

Transportation Systems Management Operation (TSMO):

- Traffic Management Center
- Maintains Sophisticated Traffic Management Networks

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Highway Fund

- Highway Fund is not the DOT and DOT is not the Highway Fund.
- Unrestricted revenue fund comprised of gas tax/road toll and registration fees collected by Dept. of Safety
- Also Fund where federal construction reimbursement, GARVEE bond and TIFIA proceeds are deposited
- Primary source of funding for Operating Budget
- Revenue from Highway Fund appropriated to various agencies, DOT, Safety, Judicial Branch and Justice
- In 2022 59.7% of Highway Fund appropriated to DOT, 26.7% to other Agencies, 13.6% to Municipalities

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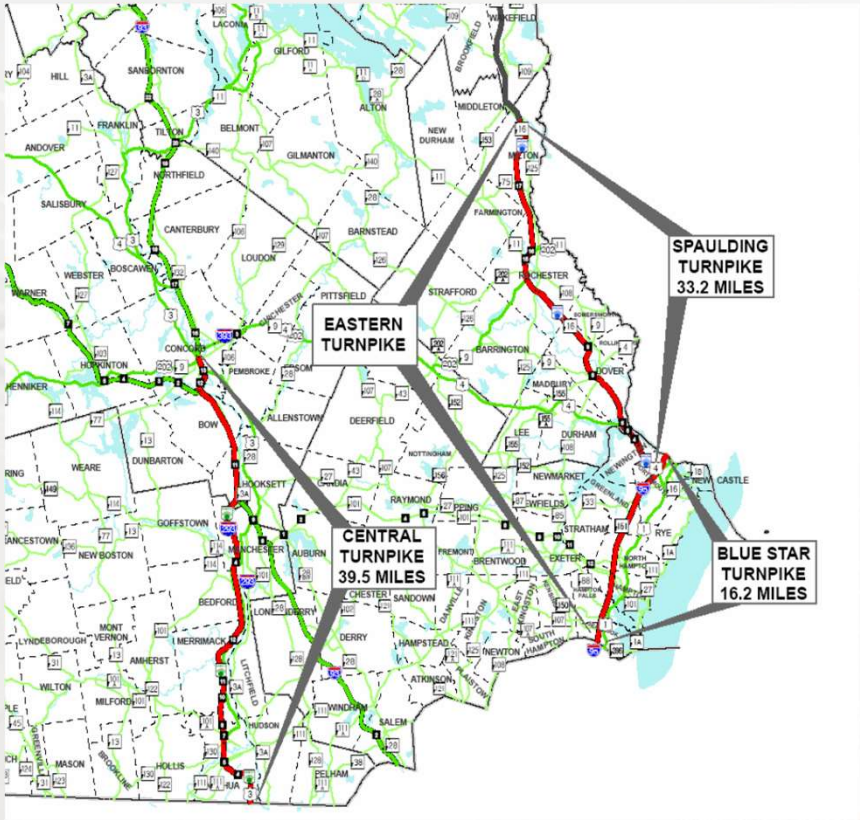
Turnpike System Overview

- 3 Turnpike Segments
- 89 Miles Long
- 172 Bridges
- 7 Toll Facilities
- Enterprise Fund – All Turnpike revenue must be used on the System
- Turnpike Revenue pays for:
  - Operating & Maintenance Costs
  - Debt Service
  - R&R Work
  - Capital Improvements
- FY22: 112 million transactions
  $123 million total revenue



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Issues and Challenges

- **Inflation**
  - Increased labor and materiel costs
- **Supply chain**
  - Procurement delays, particularly equipment
- **Workforce/Vacancies**
  - Historically high vacancy rate (24%)
  - Difficulties attracting and retaining employees
  - Difficulties hiring plow operators and hired trucks due to non-competitive wages
- **Productivity**
  - Falling short of targets
  - Prioritizing resources to critical areas
  - Reduced preventative maintenance

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Issues and Challenges

Longer Term Challenges:

- Funding – Insufficient Highway Fund Revenues to fund current levels of service :
- Lack of matching funds for federally funded projects.
- Limited State Funds for non-federal eligible state roads
- Declining road toll revenues
    - Increased fuel-efficient vehicles
    - Electric vehicles
- Continued One-time fixes

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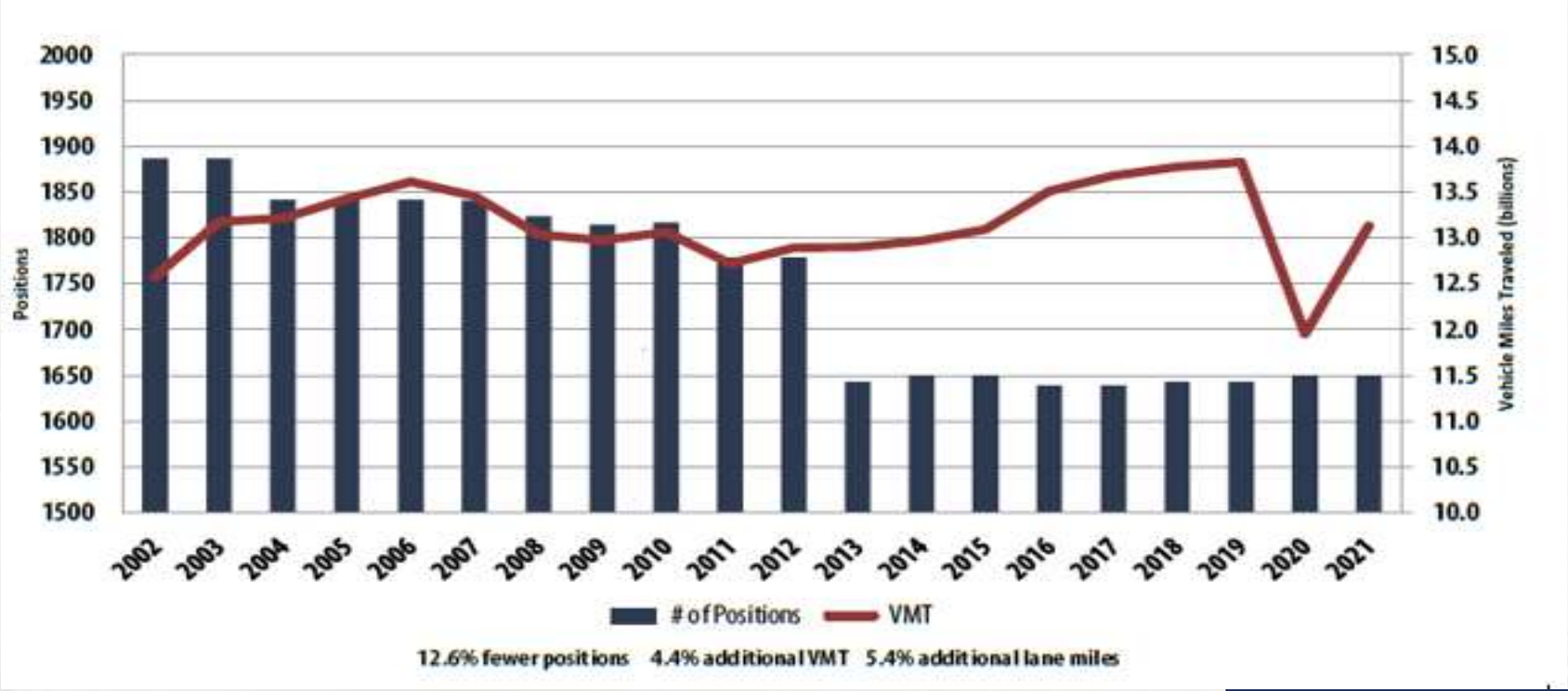
Issues & Challenges



VMT 13% increase
17% fewer positions
441 additional lane miles

* FY14 includes 21 unfunded positions

Currently 1,650 permanent employees: 17% fewer than in 1992

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Transportation Committee Bills & NHDOT

- *Speed Limits*
- *Pedestrian/Traffic Signals*
- *Line Striping*
- *Rumble Strips*
- *Seasonal Postings*
- *Signage*
- *OHRVs*
- *Drones*

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NH Transportation Council

Established by the NH Legislature in 2018 (RSA 238-A).

Intended to partner with NHDOT and the General Court to make recommendation to help develop a 21st century multimodal transportation network.

Charged with studying, investigating, evaluating and encouraging new transportation technologies and modes to improve transportation.

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NH Transportation Council

Council members have diverse transportation experience and backgrounds.

The Council studies transportation technologies and issues to make recommendations to its partners, the Department and the General Court.

The Council can serve in lieu of legislative study committees or commissions.

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Thank you